

REMARKS

The application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated October 13, 2005. Claims 1 to 20 are in the application, with Claims 1 and 17 being independent. Claims 5, 19, and 20 have been amended to improve form and readability. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

The drawings were objected to for containing an item not referred to in the specification. In particular, item 408', described at page 50, line 4 of the specification, was not shown in the drawings. Further, the Office Action states that item 406 (Fig. 11) cannot be a drain, since it exists on both sides of the gate 402 and comes into contact with the source 405. These matters have been attended to in the two replacement sheets of drawings submitted herewith (Figs. 10 and 11). The changes made to the drawings are shown in the attached marked-up copies of Figs. 10 and 11. In addition, the specification has been amended to be consistent with the changes made to the drawings.

The drawings were also objected to for including the following items not referred to in the specification: 508 to 510, 512, 514, 516, 518, 526, 528, and 529 (Fig. 13). The specification has been amended to include a description of these items. Applicants respectfully submit that one skilled in the art would have understood that such was intended.

The specification was objected to for alleged informalities regarding items 414 to 416. The specification has been amended to attend to these matters.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge that indication that Claims 12 and 13 contain allowable subject matter.

Claims 1 to 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, for use of the term “an island-shaped protrusion layer”. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

According to the Office Action, it is unclear whether Applicant intended that the protrusion layer is island-shaped, or that the layer is one of island-shaped protrusions. Applicant respectfully submit that one skilled in the art, in light of the specification, would understand that the latter meaning was intended.

Claims 1, 2, 11, 19, and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 5,625,199 (Baumbach). Claims 3 to 6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Baumbach. Claims 1, 2, 7 to 10, and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over the Jackson article (Jackson) in view of the Parikh article (Parikh). Claims 15 and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Jackson in view of Parikh, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,326,640 (Shi). Claims 17 and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Jackson in view of Parikh, and further in view of the Bao article (Bao). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

According to a feature of the invention as recited by Claims 1 and 17, an island-shaped protrusion layer having dispersed and island-shaped protrusions with a low surface energy is provided (Claim 1) or is formed (Claim 17) in contact with the organic semiconductor layer.

None of Baumbach, Jackson, and Parikh is seen to teach or suggest at least the above-discussed feature.

The Office Action takes the position that Baumbach’s patterned isolation layer 54 corresponds to the island-shaped protrusions of the present invention. However, it

is Applicant's understanding that the patterned isolation layer 54 is a continuous layer.

The Office Action concedes that Jackson does not describe the above-discussed feature. However, relying on Parikh, the Office Action asserts that the invention would nevertheless have been obvious. Applicant respectfully disagrees with this assertion.

Applicant respectfully submits that there has been no showing of any indication of motivation in the applied documents to use Parikh's OTS treatment in Jackson's organic thin-film transistor manufacturing method. In this regard, it is Applicant's understanding that the OTS treatment described in Parikh does not relate to an organic semiconductor. The object of Parikh is to form a thin film having a thickness on a molecular level.

Neither Shi nor Bao is seen to remedy the foregoing deficiencies of Baumbach, Jackson, and Parikh.

According to another feature of the invention as recited by Claim 17, the island-shaped protrusions are formed in a dispersed manner by spin coating or spray coating.

The Examiner places reliance on Bao for this feature. However, Applicant respectfully submits that such reliance is misplaced.

It is Applicant's understanding that the OTS treatment described in Parikh (molecular film formation) could not be carried out by the spin-coating method described in Bao. As such, Applicants submit that the proposed modification would render Parikh unsatisfactory for its intended purpose. See MPEP § 2143.01.

None of Baumbach, Jackson, and Shi is seen to remedy the foregoing deficiencies of Parikh and Bao.

The dependent claims are also submitted to be patentable because they set forth additional aspects of the present invention and are dependent from the independent claims discussed above. Therefore, separate and individual consideration of each dependent claim is respectfully requested.

An Information Disclosure Statement was submitted on November 21, 2005. Consideration of the documents cited therein is respectfully requested.

The application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office by telephone at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



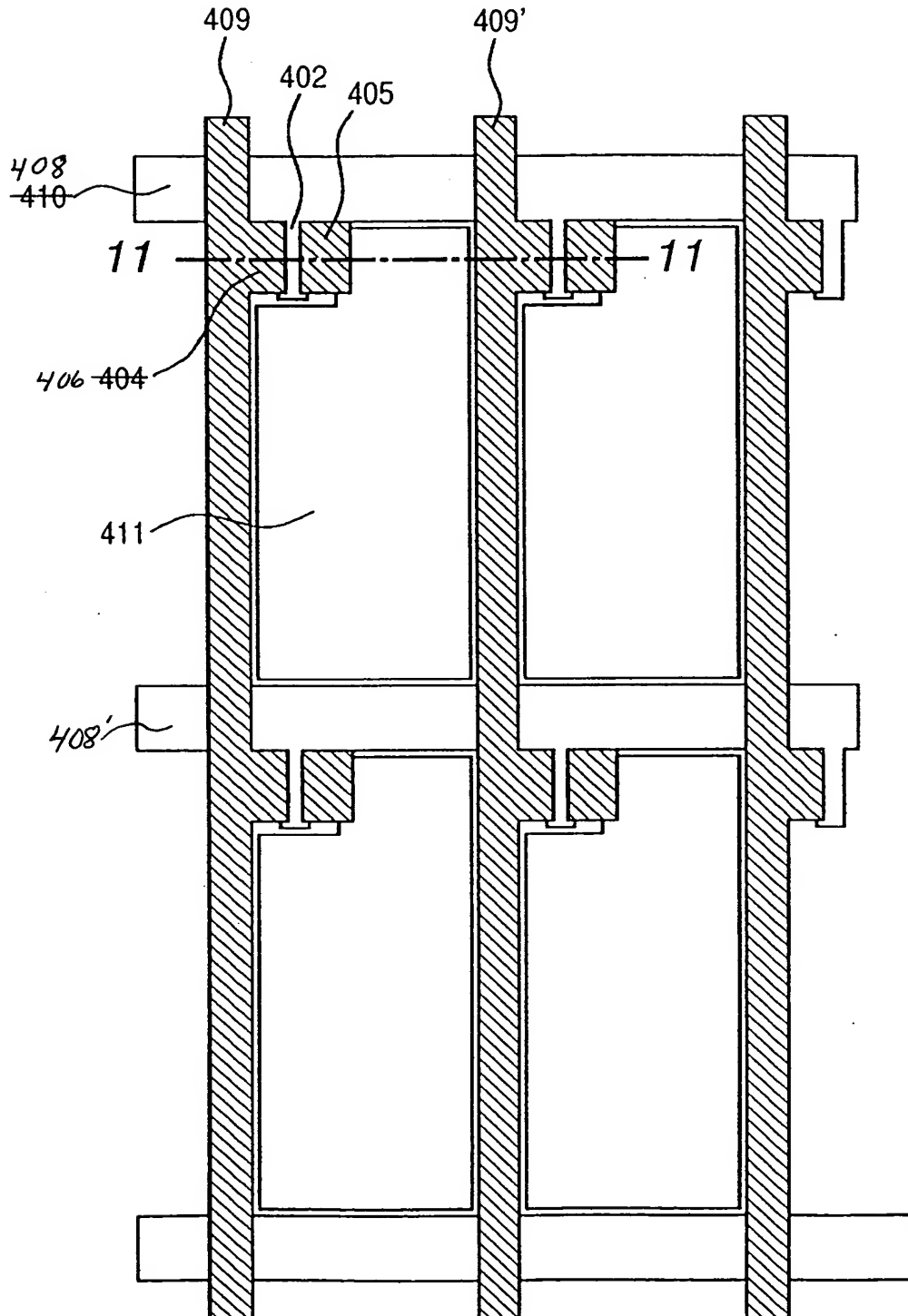
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FIG. 10





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FIG. 11

